## Kess, Quinn

From:

ward moss <wardmoss@outdrs.net>

Sent: To: Friday, February 22, 2013 5:14 PM Kess, Quinn; Sen. McLachlan, Michael

Subject:

"Testimony on Bill #6050"

To:

The Honorable members of the Transportation Committee:

Re: Testimony on Bill #6050 -- Tolls at the state borders --

As a life long Connecticut resident and retired employee from the transportation sector of employment I am forced to air my objection to the return of a bad idea for my home state. Putting up toll stations where drivers enter the state may seem a sensible source of revenue and a partial solution for the budget ills of Connecticut. I contend that no matter how well such tax is collected, so doing creates more disaster than the value of the revenue collected. Even if modern high speed electronic collection is utilized traffic flow is restricted and the flow of commerce is impaired. Enough traffic jams exist without toll booths of any sort. The cost of fuel is restrictive to the flow of commerce and it would follow that the extra burden of tolls reduces the plausibility of profit for all industry located or wishing to locate within Connecticut's borders. We are loosing enough industry due to our business unfriendly taxes and zoning practices. This whole concept is counterproductive to, let alone to the growth therein but to maintaining a business friendly atmosphere in our state.

Besides the negative influence to commerce and guaranteed mayhem to the flow of private and commercial traffic there is the safety issue connected with tolls. Not everyone has or ever will have E Z Pass ability therefor some toll booths and new construction of toll collecting infrastructure must be built. I remember the horrific traffic jams on Rt. 95 when toll booths blotted our land scape. I also remember the horrific deaths at those same toll booths that caused sensible men to remove them. Replacement would be tantamount to murder. In reality they are unsafe even with modern electronic collection. All toll booths are restrictive to modern traffic and always will be a safety concern.

Please reject the temptation to collect revenue in this manor. The service this state has in the sense of highways and interstates isn't wonderful at best. It would be poor judgment to lesson the viability of travel in our state. Toll collection at our borders represents short sighted thinking and would harm commerce, reduce the value of life in the state with horrific traffic jams as well as produce safety hazards.

Thank you for considering my opinion and for your service on this committee . Sincerely,

Wm. W. Moss, III 446 State Rte. 37 New Fairfield, Ct. 06812